

# THE AMERICAN

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VOL. VII.—NO. 189.

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# THE AMERICAN.

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PHILADELPHIA, SATURDAY, MARCH 22, 1884.

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## REVIEW OF THE WEEK.

THE discussion of the prospects of various candidates for the two nominations to the presidency, takes up with every week a larger space in the newspapers. We doubt if there is such deepening of interest on the part of the public. There is no candidate before either party to whose selection so much antagonism is felt as was shown to the renomination of General GRANT four years ago; and the completeness with which the third-term question was then settled is shown by the fact that his name is never mentioned in this connection. As in 1880, the prospects are that the Republican Convention will find itself so divided between the adherents of the more prominent candidates that the choice will devolve upon someone outside this number.

Mr. LOGAN's friends do not seem able to carry the Illinois boom into other states; yet the business community in the East has taken some alarm at the prospect of a president whose financial record is open to many exceptions. Senator LOGAN's war record is urged by his friends as a claim to popular support; and his conduct when displaced from command of the Army of the Tennessee has been brought into honorable contrast with that of FITZ-JOHN PORTER under circumstances of much less provocation. Nothing in Mr. LOGAN's recent record has done so much to extend his popularity as his unflinching opposition to the FITZ-JOHN PORTER Relief Bill. But we can not regard him as a possible candidate for the presidency. His record is not such as to command the support of the independent voters in the doubtful states on the Atlantic Seaboard.

Mr. BLAINE's remarkable and somewhat inexplicable popularity is focussed in Pennsylvania, where even the Independent Republicans of the interior counties are generally BLAINE men. In other states, not excepting Maine itself, there is much less concentration of enthusiasm. It is said, however, that his admission to a position in Mr. GARFIELD's Cabinet has been of material aid to his prospects, and that the Republicans of the Western Reserve express their preference for him. The publication of his volume of memoirs at this juncture is regarded generally as a movement in furtherance of his candidacy, and as giving the negative to the reports that he was not in the field. Some of his strongest admirers, however, think that the book will not give him much assistance, as it is much inferior to what his Oration on Mr. GARFIELD led them to expect.

Among the Democrats the great question is whether or not Mr. TILDEN is in the field as a candidate. The most contradictory reports as to his health and his wishes are published upon equally good authority. Had he been renominated in 1880, the Democratic party might have put forward the claim that their renewal of his candidacy was prompted by indignation at the injustice they allege to have been done him in 1877. But if he is to be brought forward after the intercalation of a different candidate the public will seek for some other reason for the selection. And remembering what was the difficulty under which the party labored in 1880, as compared with 1876, the inference will be that Mr. TILDEN has been taken in preference to Mr. McDONALD, because he is a man of greater wealth and has shown his readiness to spend it in securing his own election.

THE opponents of the protective tariff, especially in the West, complain that they find it hard to have the people discriminate between their revenue reform and free trade. The average voter declines to see much difference between the two, and refuses to step from the level ground of protection to the inclined plane which logically must land him in the opposite policy. Mr. Speaker CARLISLE did not do much to help his friends out of this practical difficulty, by accepting the invitation to the dinner of the New York Free Trade Club, and by making a speech in which free trade was accepted as a principle and with all its consequences. He pointed to the absolute freedom of trade which exists between the states of the Union as the great source of their several and collective prosperity, leaving his hearers to infer that he aimed at nothing less than

a commerce equally free between the nations of the earth, as the basis of their several and collective prosperity. There is only one free trader known to us who is so advanced as Mr. CARLISLE. It is Mr. JOHN RUSKIN, who calls for the abolition of the custom-house system as a logical application of free trade principles. Even the English Government permits of no such freedom of trade with foreign countries as exists between the states of the American Union. It levies a large part of its revenue in duties upon imports, every one of which, as Mr. GOLDWIN SMITH has well observed, has the tendency to check the trade in that article. Mr. CARLISLE is as much of a cosmopolitan as was Mr. COBDEN when he expressed the wish that national boundary-lines might be wiped off the map of Europe.

MR. RANDALL's committee is making very slow progress with the appropriation bills, and he even has been suspected of a desire to delay them, in order that they may be in the way of the tariff bill. If we may judge of their character from that passed by the House for the Post-Office department, it is his intention to cut down their amounts below the sums really required for the efficient management of the government's affairs. The House amended the bill in the interest of the offices in the great cities, but left it in a condition which calls for large alterations to adapt it to the public needs. Since the Star Route frauds ceased to drain the department of its revenues, it has been earning a handsome surplus. If the Government were in need of revenue, there might be some reason for appropriating this surplus to the payment of expenses elsewhere. But as matters now stand there should be at least as great an enlargement of post-office facilities as the income of the department will warrant. In the great cities and in the closely-settled districts around them, the American post-office furnishes much fewer facilities than does the English. The policy pursued by the House of Representatives is one that tends to keep us on a level with such countries as Russia or Turkey in this respect. It is to be hoped that the Senate will amend the bill in accordance with the recommendations of Mr. GRESHAM's annual report.

THE Treaty of Reciprocity with Mexico is not yet through with its troubles. As the Senate amended it, the House must originate and pass a measure to give it effect. The opponents of the Treaty have entered upon a fresh resistance to it. The sugar-planters of Louisiana have held a meeting to denounce it, and to call upon their representatives to resist in every way the passage of the proposed act. The tobacco-growers are equally hostile. In the present temper of the House, it is by no means certain that any action will be taken at this session.

In Alabama also there is promise of a decided resistance to the free trade policy favored by most if not all the representatives from that state. An Industrial League is organizing for the purpose of influencing nominations and elections to Congress. One Democratic paper heartily supports the League, and others express the fear that it may result in a division of the party. Nothing better could occur than the division of the state upon some other line than that of color or the issues growing out of the war. With a free trade and a protectionist party fighting for the congressional delegation, there would be lively and friendly bidding for the colored vote on both sides. A similar situation in Georgia is far from improbable.

THE session of Congress thus far has not been fruitful of important legislation. There still is time to make this a memorable congress, but the manner in which time has been wasted in the passing of pension-bills and the like does not indicate that the Democratic majority in the House feels its responsibilities sitting heavily upon it.

In the Senate the FITZ-JOHN PORTER bill was first amended and then passed by a vote of thirty Democrats and six Republicans, to twenty-five Republicans in the negative. Mr. HOAR of Massachusetts was the only Republican of much weight who was found in the minority. Mr. LOGAN's speech against the bill was the principal one, and was as able as any of the minority in the House. On one important point, viz., the

delivery of the disputed despatches from General POPE to General PORTER, and the manner in which the latter received them, fresh evidence of importance had been forthcoming since the vote in the House. The voting throughout, however, had been so independent of the evidence that there was no reason to suppose that this would affect the result. So far as the majority of House and Senate could go, a serious blow has been inflicted on the discipline of the United States Army. This blow might have been productive of most serious consequences in the future, were it not that the resistance of General PORTER's restoration of itself amounted to a punishment for his neglect of duty. Those who have opposed this measure have no reason to think that their action has been fruitless. On the contrary, they have given warning to every future General FITZ-JOHN PORTER that, whatever may be the complacency of courts of inquiry and congresses, there are means of punishing a general who allows the spite of a clique to interfere with his duties as a soldier. That the public feel deeply in this matter, was shown by the conduct of the galleries on the announcement of the vote. General PORTER's friends indulged in a burst of applause, which was met and drowned in a storm of hisses that startled the Senate and brought an immediate vote of an executive session.

THE proposal to appropriate national money to aid in the extirpation of the foot-and-mouth disease among cattle has encountered in the Senate a resistance as great as it sustained in the House. Mr. BAYARD and other Democratic constitutionalists resisted the appropriation as one beyond the power of Congress, while Mr. GARLAND took the ground that a public necessity, with which the states cannot cope, is sufficient warrant for national action. The difficulty in this case might be met by joint action of adjacent states in the West. But the constitution, by explicitly prohibiting any association of states for any purpose, throws the responsibility upon the nation.

This terribly infectious disease has broken out and is spreading rapidly at Neosho Falls and its vicinity in Kansas. The symptoms appeared as early as the Christmas holidays, and seemed to be the result of the hard weather on the plains. The state authorities already have taken measures to destroy and bury the infected animals. But if it should become so widely spread in any state as to make it impossible or no longer worth while for that state to expend money in its extirpation, the adjacent states would be involved with it. Even as it is, every cattle-producing state is injured by the reports of the prevalence of the disease in Kansas. Foreign countries will be more inclined to restrict the importation of American cattle, because a single commonwealth is known to be affected.

THE bill for national aid in the extirpation of illiteracy, prepared by Senator BLAIR of New Hampshire, has been under discussion in the Senate. It proposes to appropriate fifteen millions at once for this purpose, and to diminish the appropriation by one million dollars every year for ten years, when it is to cease. The money is to be distributed among the states in proportion to the number of persons under ten years of age in each who are unable to read and write. It requires that each state shall expend from its own-revenue one-third as much as it receives; and it limits the money to be expended in the support of Normal Schools to one-tenth of the amount. It leaves the states free, under these restrictions, to expend the money according to their own judgment. It does not attempt to create a new class of teachers or superintendents, who shall be in immediate relations with the national government. As most of the money would go to the South, and as every addition to the number of persons holding federal office in the South is objectionable in itself and a source of heart-burning, we think Mr. BLAIR has done well to leave the expenditure entirely in the hands of the states. We should much prefer a broader measure for the relief of state burdens, and one contemplating its own permanence. But until we obtain a congress of larger views on this subject we shall be content to see Mr. BLAIR's or some similar measure become a law. It will serve as a help to more enlightened views on the distribution of the national surplus.

IN the House of Representatives Mr. MORRISON's bill for the reduction of the tariff duties has made no farther progress. There is talk of calling a "conference" of the Democratic members, instead of the usual party caucus, to consider the question. It is hoped that protectionist Democrats, who might have shunned the caucus, will come to this substitute for it, and that their support may be secured through concessions

to their preferences. One member of the Committee of Ways and Means at the New York dinner even said that "what was left of the free list" might have to be thrown over in deference to the wishes of Mr. RANDALL and his friends. Be it noted that this free list is the only part of the bill which looks to any substantial reduction of the revenue. To lower duties is generally to increase revenue. Mr. MORRISON's bill without any free list might be described fairly as a bill to increase a national revenue already in excess of national needs.

ON Wednesday, the House Committee on Foreign Affairs reported, and the House adopted, resolutions on the LASKER incident as follows:

"Resolved, That the resolutions referring to the death of Dr. EDUARD LASKER adopted by this House on January 9th last, were intended as a tribute of respect to the memory of an eminent foreign statesman who had died within the United States, and an expression of sympathy with the German people, for whom he had been an honorable representative.

"RESOLVED, That the House, having no official concern with the relations between the executive and legislative branches of the German Government, does not deem it requisite to its dignity to criticise the manner of the reception of the resolutions or the circumstances which prevented their reaching their destination after they had been communicated through the proper channels to the German Government."

When it is remembered that LASKER was a leader of the National Liberals in Germany, it will be seen that there is room to doubt the justice of the eulogy pronounced upon his public career by the House. The three achievements of that party were the adoption of free trade, the demonetization of silver, and the war upon the Roman Catholic Church. To praise a man for a career so sharply in contrast to our own national policy on all these points, was a gross absurdity. If the resolution had been confined to an appreciation of his high personal character and his great abilities, it would have excited no objection on any one's part.

Prince BISMARCK, in his speech on the subject in the Reichstag, recalled the fact that his policy had been friendly to the American people at a time when we were in need of friends in high places in Europe. We do not suppose that this consideration will count for much with the ruling elements in the present House. At that time they profited very little by his friendship. But it is worth our remembering that he and another German, the late Prince-Consort of England, were the staunchest in resistance to plans for the recognition of the Southern Confederacy which were brought forward by NAPOLEON the Third.

THE Association of the National Banks of Eastern Pennsylvania has transmitted to Congress a plan for the perpetuation of the national banking system and its currency. It reminds us of the old gentleman who cured the smoky chimney by adopting not one but all of the measures suggested by his neighbors. It combines a great variety of arrangements to secure the holders of bank-notes against loss, without continuing the present arrangement of the deposit of an equivalent in national bonds. The plan does propose that a part of the debt be funded in a two and a half per cent. bond, to run for an indefinite period. This we regard as the most objectionable part and the least essential. The American people have no intention of perpetuating their national debt for the convenience of the banks, or even for their own convenience in the matter of a safe currency. It has been their practice and it is their intention to pay off the bonds which represent their indebtedness, as fast as these come within the reach of the treasury, and to the full extent of their surplus revenue. Besides this, the plan proposes the issue of notes not represented by bonds on deposit, but whose redemption is secured in three different ways. Instead of repealing the one per cent. tax on circulation, it would accumulate that tax as a fund for the redemption of the notes of insolvent banks. If we may judge from past experience, this fund would be more than sufficient for the purpose. The money collected in this tax since the national banking system was established, is far in excess of the circulation redeemed on account of banks which have failed during that period. If the same relation of the two amounts is to continue, there would be the danger of locking up a great sum in currency which would be withdrawn from business use. In the second place, it is proposed that the banks shall be required to keep with the treasury coin or treasury notes to the amount of one-fifth of their circulation, as at present. This always would be available to meet any immediate demand, and in case



of a failure would be used to diminish the bank's drain upon the fund accumulated for ultimate redemption. Thirdly, it is proposed to make the notes of the bank a first lien upon all its assets. This we presume means that nothing is to be taken from the general redemption fund, unless the assets are found insufficient for the redemption of the notes, or that whatever is taken is to be repaid from the assets. To secure the other creditors of the bank, it is proposed, in the fourth place, to make the stockholders responsible for the bank's debts to an amount equal to the par value of their stocks.

The plan of our Pennsylvania bankers is worthy of consideration. It evidently has been prepared with care, and is the work of men who combine business experience with attention to the theory of banking. Our present objection to it is its complexity. It seems to us that it would be much more desirable to devise some simple substitute for the deposit of government bonds, and that this substitute could be found in bonds of some other class. Even state bonds, though liable to repudiation, might not be objectionable for this purpose. State repudiation would become impossible when every note-holder in the state had an interest in its honest treatment of its creditors.

THE Committee appointed by the Independent Republican conference of last month has issued a circular in which it calls attention to the gross inequality of representation in the national Republican Convention. As the representation is based on the membership of the two branches of Congress, states which have a very small number of Republican voters in proportion to their population will send to Chicago as many delegates as though those voters were numerous enough to control the politics of the state. Thus in the four states, Mississippi, Texas, Georgia and Louisiana, there is one delegate for every 2,208 Republican voters. In the four states, Pennsylvania, New York, Ohio and Indiana, there is an average of one voter for every 7,755 Republican voters. The injustice of the arrangement is not even measured by these figures. The Republican vote in the Southern states counts for absolutely nothing in the actual choice of a president; and yet those states are so strongly represented in the selection of the candidate that their union with a small body of Northern delegates would suffice to effect a choice.

In the earlier nominations for the presidency, the selection was made by the congressional caucuses of each party, and was substantially more just than the holding of a national convention on the present basis. The calling of such conventions began with a third party, the Anti-Masons, who had no representation in Congress and who sought to use the convention as a means to stir up interest in states in which they were weak. Something was said at Chicago in 1880 as to the necessity for a change in the basis of representation; but the questions raised by the unit-rule were so urgent as to prevent action in this direction.

THE question of woman suffrage has been up in Canada, in Massachusetts, and in Iowa. In the Dominion no result has been reached, but the opponents of the measure fear that tricky and unstable politicians may yield more to the agitation than their judgment approves. Professor GOLDWIN SMITH, who supported the proposal when it first was brought forward by Mr. STUART MILL, says he "was led to reconsider his opinion by finding that among the women on whom he had been accustomed to look as examples of female excellence, hardly any were in favor of the change. By far the greater number believe that it would jeopardize, for no adequate object, the position and privileges of their sex. This seems practically conclusive, so far as English women were concerned. In the United States there is really something like a third sex."

In Massachusetts the party who favor this innovation had nothing to expect from the present legislature or government, both of whom were elected in defiance of their opposition. The proposal, however, was brought before the legislature as usual, and was negatived by a large majority. Another measure of interest to women before the legislature reads as follows: "Whoever, not being armed with a dangerous weapon, assaults his wife, shall be publicly whipped." This would make it perfectly safe for a man to beat his wife black and blue with one fist, while the other held a slung-shot or a pistol. It would impose a most disgraceful punishment upon a husband who boxed his wife's ears, or put her out of his room by the shoulders, or did anything else that is technically an assault, however great the provocation. It would furnish a thousand opportunities for exaggerating and embittering family quarrels to a point past all reconciliation.

In Iowa one branch of the legislature has voted to submit the question of woman suffrage to the people in an amendment to the state constitution.

Nothing is more likely to assist the advocates of this change, than is such resistance to reasonable demands for the enlargement of woman's sphere of action as has been offered recently in this city. The three Courts of Common Pleas have refused to Mrs. KILGORE, a lady of estimable character and ample attainments in the law, the leave to practise at the bar. It is not alleged by the judges that there is anything in the laws or the constitution of the State which forbids the admission of women. They merely say that there is no law which authorizes it. If the rights and status of women are to be determined in this way, the Century Club should make some investigations to ascertain what women are authorized to do. It is lawful for them to ride in the street cars? Has the legislature ever passed a bill to allow them to go shopping or to carry an umbrella when it rains? As Judge PEARCE well insisted in his dissenting opinion, situations arise in law as well as in medicine in which womanly delicacy suggests recourse to an advisor of the same sex. And in the law these situations have become more numerous since the legislature, in the teeth of the opposition of bench and bar, emancipated the women of the Commonwealth from the bondage laid upon them by English tradition as regards property and other rights. The common sense of the matter requires that woman shall have a fair chance to find a living and to employ her talents in any field for which she has fitness. Nothing but the selfishness of vested rights stands in the way of her access to the legal as well as the medical profession.

THE State of New York is working out the problem of reform in city government with more energy than is shown in any other commonwealth. Governor CLEVELAND has signed the bill to vest all appointments to offices not filled by election in the mayor of New York. This is followed by a series of nine bills for the reformation of the city government, none of which seem to be drawn with any reference to party advantage, or with any other purpose than to enable the people to secure honest administration of their affairs. A reason for this activity is found in the report of the special committee appointed to investigate the government of that city. It shows that the office of County Clerk has been managed with remarkable incompetency, and that that of the Sheriff has been employed to enrich its incumbent by dishonest drafts on the city treasury.

On the other hand, the Democrats in one branch of the legislature, with the help of fourteen Republicans, have defeated a measure to make civil service reform imperative, as it now is optional, in all the larger cities of the commonwealth. As this reform is fundamental, no alterations in matters of detail will meet the existing need. To give city officials every motive to abuse their offices, and every opportunity to do so, and to then pounce upon them with an investigation every ten years, is not a civilized method of government.

THE Commonwealth of Virginia has been suing before the Supreme Court for its share in the fourth instalment of the surplus distributed in 1836. The amount which would have fallen to Virginia is \$732,809. The fourth instalment was not paid in 1837, because the panic of that year had reduced the national revenue to an alarming degree. Congress postponed it until 1839; but neither then nor at any time subsequently was the money appropriated. The Court holds that Mr. CALHOUN's bill for the distribution of the surplus created no obligation under which the United States can be compelled to make any payment. Indeed, that bill provided only for the deposit of the several instalments with the states, subject to recall by the national government. Until Congress makes the fourth instalment a charge upon the revenue, the Secretary of the Treasury has no power to make any payment. The Court therefore refuses to issue a writ of *mandamus* to compel the Secretary to do so.

We should have been surprised at any other decision from the Supreme Court, in view of the fact that the act of 1836 was drawn so carefully to avoid the creation of any obligation. But it is well that Virginia has reminded the states generally of the fact that thirty-seven and a half millions of the national surplus were ordered to be distributed in 1836, and that more than twenty-eight millions were thus distributed in that and the following year. It is significant also that two Democratic states, Virginia and Arkansas, have brought suit for the full execution of the distribution policy, and that Kentucky seconds Pennsylvania in asking for a return to that policy.

It seems not improbable that some kind of an alliance between the Mormons and the Democrats is thought of. Mr. CAINE, the delegate from Utah, has been given a place on the Congressional Campaign Committee of the Democratic party. *The Deseret News*, in its comments on eastern affairs, holds the Democracy up to the admiration of the Saints, and has no terms too abusive for the Republican party. Unless the Democrats mean to move for the admission of Utah as a State, it would be singularly foolish for them to identify their cause with that of the Polygamists. It would help to divide their forces in the Southern States, where the vigorous propaganda of the Saints among the poor whites has created a very bitter feeling against them.

If Utah is to come in, it must be as an offset to Dakota, whose admission has been favorably reported by the House Committee on Territories. It might serve the Democrats thus to balance certainly Democratic against a possibly Republican state. But it would not serve for the Republicans to enter into any such dicker.

MR. LESLIE STEPHEN, a very high authority on such subjects, thinks that the English law of blasphemy calls for immediate and thorough amendment. He disagrees with Lord COLERIDGE, who thinks that only indecent and irreverent attacks upon religious doctrines and sacred names are liable to the penalties of the law. In his opinion, such men as Mr. HERBERT SPENCER and Mr. CONGREVE, with the publishers of their books, are liable to heavy fine and imprisonment for what they have written about Christianity and about theistic belief. If this opinion be well founded, then Christians should be the first to urge the alteration of the law. Christianity abandons its own principles when it gives the most remote approval of the notion that men may be drilled into godliness by the terrors of the law, or that anything is gained for the truth by imposing silence upon the respectful objections of its antagonists. Truth has nothing to fear so much as stagnation in the intellectual movement, or a respectable acquiescence in doctrines accepted as "the correct thing" by people who never gave an earnest thought to the great problems of existence. The SPENCERS help in keeping the world alive to the fact that that those problems exist and will be answered. The law of blasphemy, except as a guard against needless outrages of the most delicate instincts, has no place in wise legislation. In that sense the Agnostics themselves approve it.

THE Irish nationalists are not unnaturally excited by the returns of population which show that the island is losing steadily in numbers, the emigration for the past year aggregating 108,000 souls, of whom more than half were adult and unmarried men. This is, indeed, the final test and condemnation of English rule in Ireland, that its people fly from the land they love so passionately, as though it were plague-smitten, and seek a home and prosperity elsewhere. *Nulla regio nostra non plena laboris!* It used to be said that the country was overpopulated and could not feed its own people. That statement gives way before a very slight analysis of its agricultural returns. If the Irish were twice as numerous as they are, they could not consume the food produced in the country, even in a bad year like 1882. Even in years of famine they have to export more food than could be consumed at home. By the export and sale of food they pay the rents of non-resident landlords, and they purchase from foreign countries nearly everything used in the island by both the peasantry and the resident land-lords. Ireland, thanks to English free trade, has no manufactures to speak of and no opportunity to create any on her soil by imposing any discriminating duties on foreign imports. Her famines are not from want of food, but from want of work. Her difficulty is not a land question, as both Mr. GLADSTONE and Mr. PARNELL have assumed that it is. It is the want of any employment but farming which has made her people dependent on the land alone, and has obliged them to pay any price that they might be asked for it in rent.

CIVILIZATION has two victories to boast over barbarism this week. The French have taken Bac-Ninh and are the masters of Tonquin. The English have defeated OSMAN DIGNA and driven back his forces from before Souakim. In neither case, we fear, has the victory caused much rejoicing among the higher powers of this universe, as giving promise of the speedy advent of a reign of peace and righteousness. Each has been a victory, not of ideas, but of "weapons of precision."

The battle of Souakim was unlike that at Bac-Ninh in having been well fought by the beaten party. The Arabs attacked the British lines at night, as the time when their rude arms would be at less disadvantage,

and only gave way at dawn, as the rifles began to tear their ranks. They did at one time break the square of the English, and were on the point of winning the day. When their chance was clearly gone, they retired in good order, slowly, and with a coolness that exacted the admiration of their enemies. The English reports say it was impossible to take prisoners,—that the fallen were killed as a measure of precaution, because some of them tried to kill their conquerors as they stepped across them. The Englishman can be as brutal as any savage when his "blood is up." In what spirit they have been fighting in the Soudan is shown by the proclamation from the English Admiral, offering a thousand pounds' reward for OSMAN DIGNA. This is a comment on the battle. OSMAN DIGNA is a belligerent entitled to all the rights conferred by the laws of war upon belligerents. Yet a British officer offers a reward to anyone who will have the goodness to assassinate him. He puts a premium on the murder of this man, because he thinks his resistance to the invaders of his country, and the suspicion that he killed certain messengers of the admiral's, rank him as a murderer. It is not to be wondered that the English ministry have ordered the withdrawal of this extraordinary proclamation, but not before it had cast a lurid light upon the methods and the spirit of the campaign in the Soudan. It is a sign of grace in Mr. GLADSTONE that he is literally sick of the whole business, and has to be outvoted in his own Cabinet by the war party.

[See "News Summary," page 380.]

#### NATION AND CONSTITUTION.

THE decisions of the Supreme Court on the Green-back and the Kluklux cases are the most important events of the year, so far as America is concerned. The LASKER incident and the MORRISON tariff will need a commentary to make them intelligible to the next generation. But the year will be memorable to all the generations as that in which the doctrine of national sovereignty was distinctly enunciated by our highest tribunal, and the *coup de grace* was given to the notion that the United States is but a loose confederacy, and not a solid national government.

To a great multitude of excellent persons the matter of the former decision appears objectionable, in that they can think of it only as bearing on the future of our currency. But, even supposing that a purely national currency is as objectionable as they think, is it true that we have been brought any nearer to such a currency by this decision? The proposal for such a currency was defeated before, not by constitutional difficulties in its way, but by the united resistance of the business community. The business community is timid to the last degree, or it would take it for granted that its wishes are sufficient to determine what the country will undertake in such matters. And the time may be not far distant when it will regard a currency of gold, silver and treasury notes as about the best we can have, and will bless the Supreme Court for making that possible. The wish is not the father to the thought. We should regret the centralization of monetary issues in the government's hands. But we recognize the difficulty of maintaining the present circulation on any satisfactory basis. And we do not forget what a right-about-face the business community showed itself capable of, in the matter of state regulation of rail-roads. The time may be not far off when our commercial organs may be quoting with approval Mr. GLADSTONE and Sir ROBERT PEEL on the advantages of a paper-money issued by the government exclusively.

To our thinking the importance of the general doctrine of those decisions far outweighs their immediate purpose. Had the Court confined itself to the discussion of the scope of the clause authorizing Congress to coin money, its decision might have been equally explicit as to the power of Congress to determine what is or is not "legal tender;" but the decision would have possessed no such importance as has been given to it by the derivation of that power from the general sovereignty of the national government. For the first time the Court lays down the principle that that sovereignty is not to be construed from what the Constitution contains merely, but from what it implies, and that it implies all that was supposed to constitute sovereignty at the time the Constitution was adopted. In its view the fathers of the Republic must be supposed to have intended to establish a national government in the sense in which that term was then understood. If on any point they seem to have limited its scope within narrower bounds than were then usual, those limitations are to be construed strictly. The whole document is to be read in the light of the conception of national sovereignty, and not in the light



of narrow and local ideas of state rights, as it has been read too often. This decision is valuable as tending to bring the interpretation of the Constitution into line with a sound political philosophy.

The public order of this planet is embraced in three great forms of society. The earliest and simplest of these is the *Family*, which precedes all others in order of time, and out of which the others are developed. It is the *institute of the affections*, and is characterized by common ownership of its possessions, under the authority of a ruler who derives his authority, not from the election of his subjects, but from his natural relations to them. He exercises this authority, not on the basis of simple right, and least of all on that of force, but on the basis of a mutual affection grounded in the kinship of the household.

For a time the family served the social needs of mankind. But, as ARISTOTLE says, "man is a political animal," and requires a broader association with his fellows than is furnished by the relation limited by kinship. At first the family tried to meet this need itself, and grew into a tribe under the rule of a patriarch or conventional father of an artificial family, who sought to place his rule on the double basis of authority and affection. As a matter of course, the tribe could not give any distinct recognition to the right of property, for the claim of a separate ownership comes into collision with the family idea, which it sought to enlarge. The tribe, therefore, is always more or less communistic, and as such is an obstacle to the social realization of natural rights, of which property is one.

As social development proceeded, the *State* or the *institute of rights* extricated itself from the tribe and assumed its true form and limits. For a time ideas of the tribal kind clung to it, even after its emergence. Hence the notion of a personal loyalty to the chief of the state which is seen in monarchical countries, and that of hereditary legislators seen in aristocratic countries. These tribal reminiscences disappear in democratic countries, and the state comes to be recognized as itself the proper object of the loyalty of its citizens; and equality before the law takes the place of privilege, as the more perfect realization of natural rights. It is as the realization of those rights that the state exists, and they define the scope of its sovereign authority.

The fact that various excrescences clung to the states of Europe and were seen to be artificial in character, gave rise to a notion that the state itself is an artificial arrangement, and may be given any shape that pleases the fancy. Hence arose the notion of the omnipotence of constitution-makers, and the idea that these constitutions could be interpreted apart from the idea of the state. It was as though a court of probate were asked to interpret a will dividing a man's estate among his children, without taking into account the family relation,—or upon the hypothesis that it was a purely artificial bond, whose terms could be ascertained only from such distinct agreements as he had made with his wife and his children. But the state is like the family in not being an artificial group, but a natural and indispensable unit. No man is given his choice whether he will be or refuse to be a member of either. He is born into each; and the state claims his loyalty, as the family claims his affections, from the start. The state's demand may go so far as to claim his life itself. An institution so fundamental to human nature must be interpreted largely. It must have free scope to render to its citizens all the benefits involved in its idea, in consideration of the large demands it makes in turn upon them. This scope is given to our own government by the decision of the Supreme Court. It takes the broad conception of sovereignty as historically ascertained by the practice of nations, not by the notions of theorists, as a canon for the interpretation of the fundamental law of the Republic.

Great as is the state, even it does not entirely satisfy the demand of man for association with his fellows. It is involved in the idea of the state that it accepts bounds, not only to its territorial possessions, but to the range of its interest. It is not and never can be cosmopolitan. To become that it must sacrifice that variety of speech, character and temper of thought that now gives color to human life, and must reduce all these to a dead level of uniformity. And yet men have such a longing for a still larger association with their fellow men, and even for a fellowship with all men, that they are constantly trying to realize this at the expense of the state, by setting up the Empire on its ruins. The empire in its idea is a political body which accepts no boundaries, but sets itself to bring all mankind under a single sway. It finds its best exemplar in the Caliphate of the early Moslems, and in the system of government that Rome established over the countries around the Mediterranean. All

such experiments come sooner or later to the death that is involved in their very idea. They are not parts of the natural order of society, any more than was the tribe. Like it they are attempts to expand a natural institution beyond the bounds fixed for it by its very nature. Like it they seek the satisfaction of a half-blind yearning, which must find that satisfaction in a form entirely different. An empire is a nation trying to be the institute of humanity as well as the institute of rights.

The *institute of humanity* is the *Church*. We do not say the Christian Church. That is as may be. Certainly no Christian Church—Greek, Roman Catholic or Protestant,—corresponds in its present form and character to what we regard as the idea of a church. Of none of them can we say that it is, or even tries hard to be, the brotherhood of man under the fatherhood of GOD. The idea which seems to dominate in all of them is rather that of exclusion than inclusion; or, where inclusion is made an aim theoretically, this is accompanied by so much practical exclusiveness in the narrowness of sympathy that it is defeated. But the Christian Church, as defined in its first days and in its most authoritative documents, comes nearer to the idea than any other institution. It was meant to be a gathering under one Head of all in Heaven and all in Earth. There have been many attempts at such a larger unity as this, since the Apostle so defined it. The Masonic Order as it stands, and still more in the ideal form that LESSING proposed for it, may be so regarded. But they all have failed to realize this great ideal even more signally than has the Christian body. That at least professes to welcome all sorts and conditions of men to its membership, while they seek only limited classes that approach by some sort of elective affinity. It alone offers a ground of unity great enough and deep enough to correspond to the greatness of the problem,—the unity of mankind in GOD. Some day the churches may awake to the greatness of the task, and of the stewardship laid upon them.

#### WEEKLY NOTES.

THE work of Charity Organization has been running the gauntlet of hostile criticism in Boston, as it did in our own city in the time of its inception. In Boston the Associated Charities differs from our own society in that it abstains from giving relief out of its own resources. It carries out a system of registration and correspondence between those societies which accept its assistance, and it enlists a corps of ladies and gentlemen in the work of visiting the poor. That it has done much good in preventing the waste of charity, in awakening the spirit of self-help and self-respect among the poor, in bridging the gulf that threatens to grow up between social classes in America as in Europe, does not commend it to those wise people who measure a charity by the percentage it gets in physical relief to the poor. Those who find their ideal of charitable relief in the operations of a soup society, such as all soup societies formerly were and some of them still are, will not be comforted by any exhibit of moral and social results. They will go on doing harm to the poor according to their opportunities, and building up the structure of artificial and professional poverty, as they have been doing for more than half a century. Some fine day we all shall be made aware of the result in the presence of a hopeless and quite unmanageable mass of pauperism, of native origin and long confirmed habits, in our American society.

MR. MACALISTER, the new superintendent of schools in Philadelphia, seems to have taken hold of his task with a proper sense of the depth of the chaos of neglect and confusion, out of which he has to evoke order. But he has not the bureaucratic idea that all this is to be done without and even in spite of the people who are engaged in the teaching of our children. He is holding conferences with the teachers, with a view to devising a plan of instruction in whose execution he may count upon their hearty co-operation. This must seem a great and very pleasant innovation to our teachers. Most of them will remember when they were ordered to accommodate their teaching to an entirely new plan, in whose preparation they had no voice, and including many subjects they never had studied. Mr. MACALISTER is especially displeased with the manner in which the examinations for promotion are conducted. He thinks the questions have been of a kind to keep the pupils from getting the advancement they had earned. He proposes to deal both more justly and more generously in the future. Why not abolish the examinations altogether, and promote the pupils on the report that they had done the work of the class or the division faithfully? In the public schools of Boston no examinations are required; and there is a growing feeling among educational authorities that they are a fetich at whose shrine the true objects of education are sacrificed.

THE *St. James Gazette* believes that if the truth were known it would appear that many people in England would be more than half inclined to refuse a place in Westminster Abbey to the bust of LONGFELLOW that has just been placed there. This is extremely likely; but the *Gazette* is referring, not to that large class who would object because of insular prejudice and dislike for America, but to others who think

LONGFELLOW not enough of a poet to deserve the honor. "There are," it says, "many poets of the last two generations whom they would place higher than the earnest writer who sang 'on one clear harp to many tones;' and perhaps on purely critical grounds they might be right. The best work of LONGFELLOW was no doubt not equal to the best work of Mr. TENNYSON or Mr. BROWNING, or perhaps of one or two of the poets who were countrymen as well as contemporaries of the author of 'Evangeline.' Nevertheless, it remains the undeniable fact that LONGFELLOW for thirty years has been the most widely read and popular of living poets among all the English-speaking peoples, with one exception. Thousands of readers in America who never read a line of ROSSETTI'S, or in England who had never looked at the exquisite verses of Mr. LOWELL, knew their LONGFELLOW better than they knew any contemporary poet but TENNYSON; and taking the whole body of work produced it does not seem probable that posterity will be called upon to reverse the decision."

RICHARD HENGIST HORNE, the English poet, who died on the 17th in London, was a writer little known in this country,—to the present generation of readers, at least,—though he was past his eightieth year, having been born in 1802. He gained his fame as a dramatist, his chief work being the Italian tragedy, "Cosmo de Medici." Besides this and other dramatic works, he composed a miracle play on JUDAS ISCARIOT, a volume of ballads and romances, an epic entitled "Orion," and several volumes of prose. He had led during a part of his life a career of adventure, serving as an officer in the Mexican army during the war for independence, later emigrating to Australia, and working there as a miner for some time. In *Harper's Magazine* for April, which appeared on the day of his death, he has a poem.

A CORRESPONDENT writes to us from abroad: "Hotel charges in the United States are not so large as they are apt to appear in proportion to those in Europe, when it is remembered that all is generally included under one head. For instance, I have before me a bill of a second-rate Belgian provincial hotel. *Logement* is 3 francs; two candles, 1.50; fire, 1.50; attendance, .50. Thus there is 6.50 francs (\$1.35) for one night. In summer, when no fire is needed, it would have been somewhat cheaper than a Philadelphia hotel, but in winter only about fifteen cents less, for a good room can be gotten in Philadelphia for one dollar and a half a night at a first-class hotel, which, except in the very coldest weather, will need no heating which need be paid for."

THOUGH Mr. GLADSTONE has been a popular idol, he has never benefited pecuniarily by it in the way of bequests, as did Lords BEACONSFIELD and CHATHAM, more especially the latter, who amongst other gifts got a legacy of ten thousand pounds sterling from old SARAH of MARLBORO', and an estate of three thousand pounds sterling a year, with a vast mansion, from Sir WILLIAM PYNSENT, whom he had never even seen. But the property was not long in the family. The second Lord CHATHAM sold it to relieve himself from embarrassments after the death of his mother, who had chiefly resided there towards the close of her life. No purchaser could be found to buy *en bloc*; so the house, with the exception of a wing still standing, was dismantled. It was in this wing that Colonel PINNEY, the owner, who resides a few miles off, proposed to have entertained Mr. LOWELL when he went to inaugurate the statue to FIELDING at Taunton, had time permitted. The fine park-like grounds remain, and the pillar, commanding a most extensive view, which Lord CHATHAM raised to Sir WILLIAM PYNSENT.

THE explosion in the Pocahontas Coal Mine, near Staunton, in Virginia, was the most destructive that has ever occurred in the United States. One hundred and fifty-four workmen were killed in an instant; and as the mine caught fire not even their bodies have been recovered. It was supposed that Davy's safety lamp had removed the danger of the explosion of gases in mines. But the carelessness of the workmen in using the lamp, and the employment of giant powder and similar explosives in excavating coal, have destroyed this security. In England such explosives are now forbidden, and a method has been devised for using lime instead. The expansive force of lime when well tamped and then subjected to the action of water, is found sufficient to dislodge great masses of coal without the risk of an explosion.

#### NEW FRENCH BOOKS.

PARIS, February 29.

INTERESTING BOOKS are abundant at the present moment. "Lectures de Gustave Flaubert à George Sand" (one vol., Charpentier); "La Princesse Pauline de Beaumont," by A. Bardoux (one vol., Calmann Lévy), a charming study of French society at the end of the eighteenth century, interesting and romantic as a novel; "Ma Jeunesse," by J. Michelet (one vol., Lévy); "Les Allemands," by Père Didon (one vol., Lévy); "Le Romantisme des Classiques," by E. Deschanel (two vols., Hachette); "La Joie de Vivre," by Émile Zola (one vol., Charpentier); such are the titles that I select out of a long list,—the titles of the books that one must have read, under penalty of falling out of "the movement." All who are interested in Flaubert will read his letters to George Sand in order to see what *the man* Flaubert was. They are curious and interesting, and to a certain point sincere. I say "to a certain point;" for happening the other day to be speaking to an eminent

novelist, who was Flaubert's close friend for many years, on the subject of his relations with George Sand, he said to me: "Flaubert combined an immense admiration of George Sand's person with a profound detestation of her writings." I protested that in his letters he did not show signs of this detestation; on the contrary, he constantly expressed to Mme. Sand the delight with which he had read her works. "C'était de la gueulade!" was my interlocutor's reply,—mere "jaw" and humbug. In these letters there is, perhaps, not a little *gueulade* all through.

M. Émile Zola's new novel, "La Joie de Vivre," is certainly a most powerful work and one of the remarkable books of the century; at the same time, I would recommend no one to read it, and that for reasons which I will state just now. Here is the subject. The Chanteaus are people of modest means who live down in Normandy. The father suffers horribly from gout. He has retired from the lumber business with just enough to live upon. The only son, *Lazare*, who successively develops a passion for music, medicine, and chemistry in its industrial applications, finally turns out to have no decided vocation and no serious aptitude for anything. The Chanteaus take into their family circle an orphan, *Pauline*, whose guardians they are and who has a fortune of one hundred and fifty thousand francs. Little by little and without criminal premeditation, *Mme. Chanteau*, the mother, who manages the household, takes more than half of *Pauline's* money to keep *Lazare's* business afloat. *Pauline* sacrifices her money with good grace, being a tender and devoted girl; she loves *Lazare*, with whom she has grown up, with the affection of a mother or a sister; she is to marry him, but seeing that *Lazare*, feeble and hesitating as ever, loves a cousin, *Louise*, she helps him to marry her rival. *Mme. Chanteau* dies of an edema; *Louise* almost dies in child-bed; *Veronique*, the servant of the family, hangs herself; the dog *Mathieu* becomes paralyzed in his hind-quarters; *Lazare* becomes a half-crazy hypochondriac, and he and his wife, who is as crazy as he is, quarrel from morning to night. And the novel ends with a fit of anger of old *Chanteau*, who is a helpless cripple from gout, and who has to be fed like a child. Exasperated at *Veronique's* suicide, which deprives him of his dinner, he cries with indignation: "What fools people must be to kill themselves!" This is a faithful analysis of the subject of the four hundred and fifty pages to which Zola has given the cruelly ironical title of "La Joie de Vivre." The tone of the whole book is systematically gray and disagreeable. The precision of the details, the fidelity of the description of all the little incidents, all the maladies and ailments, all the operations, all the deaths, is simply photographic. It is a sincere reproduction of the empty, stupid, monotonous, sad, objectless life that many middle-class people lead,—a pure and simple reflection of the reality, such as it appears to the author. In "La Joie de Vivre" Zola has nowhere forced the note; one cannot say the book is wilfully foul, or indecent, or coarse. The author does not seem to care whether he pleases or shocks; he has simply given himself the satisfaction of composing a document,—a report that the psychologists of the future will consult with interest. Never before has any writer so completely played the rôle of the photographer, utterly indifferent to the subject he is photographing, but reproducing it, nevertheless, with rigorous veracity. The result is sickening; this record of repulsive trivialities, this display of moral and physical weakness, and insignificance and nastiness, is enough to disgust one, not only with life, but with love. "La Joie de Vivre" is probably the saddest and most terrible book that has ever been written, and the book in which humanity is more verified and disparaged than it has ever been by the most profound pessimists. It is a book of sombre despair and discouragement, of stupid moral prostration.

The first volume of the memoirs of Michelet, "Ma Jeunesse," certainly contains many pages of deep interest. Unfortunately, it has been doctored by his widow to such an extent that we never feel quite sure whether we are reading the prose of the great historian or that of Mme. Michelet. We admire her piety, perhaps, but we are often irritated by her want of taste in speaking of herself, and by the "slobbering" tone in which she makes Michelet speak of his own genius and sentiments; for Mme. Michelet does not hesitate to substitute herself for her husband, and to write for him in the first person. Mme. Michelet in her preface does not explain frankly how the volume has been made up; she simply tells us that from his early youth Michelet had been in the habit of taking notes, not only on his reading and work, but also on his sentiments and sensations. In 1820, and again in 1869, he was tempted to write the history of his life with the aid of these notes; but his great historical work absorbed him. In short, we do not know exactly what this book is; but as far as one can make out it is a mosaic composed of these notes, wrought up into a more or less continuous narrative by the pious widow; but it is not a genuine autobiography. Taking the book for what it is, it is curious and interesting, though a little morbid, preternaturally sad, and formidably goody-goody where Mme. Michelet has busied herself with touching up the sentimental parts. It gives the history of Michelet's life up to the age of twenty, of his miserable and lonely infancy, and of his wretched boyhood, when his father was imprisoned for debt, his mother sick, and food rare. Michelet's childhood was horribly miserable, and his school-life was rendered unbearable by the persecution of his comrades. His only consolation was work, and when his efforts were finally crowned by most brilliant academic success we begin to see the beginning of the end. Then we come to some charming notes about Michelet's early friendships, his first love, and his meeting at the age of seventeen with "Madame Hortense," who was a sort of Mme. de Warens, but without the weakness of Rousseau's Egeria. In many of these pages we discover the real Michelet,—the man who knew how to



paint a whole world and to evoke a whole order of sentiments by one powerful and inspired word. In short, these notes, souvenirs or memoirs are interesting enough to make us desire their continuation, the more so if that continuation tell us something about the intellectual development of the great historian, thinker and artist.

Père Didon is a Dominican monk whose fame as a preacher has been growing ever since 1872, when his eloquence first began to be remarked at Marseilles and in the South, where he preached in the cause of the national subscription for the payment of the ransom to the Prussians. Three years ago, his Lenten lectures in Paris created a great sensation; he astonished by his boldness in treating burning questions in the pulpit, and his Liberalism and polemical audacity won him a popularity that offended his spiritual superiors, who exiled him for a year from France. His forced retreat being at length at an end, he went to Germany, entered himself as a student at Berlin, and passed a year amongst the Germans, observing, comparing, and in short living the life of the students. The result of this year's observation is the present volume, "*Les Allemands*," really the first book written since the war in which a Frenchman has studied the enemy impartially, intelligently, and with the desire to discover the secret of his qualities. All who are interested in the now latent but ever imminently active hostility between France and Germany will read Père Didon's volume with curiosity and often with profit.

"*Le Romantisme des Classiques*" represents the style of literary teaching now to be had at the *Collège de France*, where the volume was originally spoken in the form of lectures. Nothing more unpedagogic could be imagined; the lectures take the form of amiable and elegant *causerie*, full of facts and theories, expressed with that lucidity and neatness of form that characterize French prose. M. Deschanel endeavors to react against the common tendency to look upon Racine and Corneille, and the classical writers, as creatures apart embalmed in their glory,—admirable, if you will, but tiresome. In his study of Racine M. Deschanel has shown us the man as well as the poet, and in the analysis of each piece he has found a pretext for some new development on the genius of the poet, on his epoch, on his method, on the rules of the theatre, and on a thousand matters of permanent and pressing interest.

Anecdotic books continue to abound. I note "*Mes Souvenirs*," by Gustave Claudin (one vol., Calmann Lévy), a gossip account of all sorts of celebrities, literary, political and artistic, who have been noticeable on the Paris *boulevards* since 1840. M. Jules Clarétie continues the publication of his history of the Parisian year in "*La Vie à Paris*,"—the fourth year (one vol., Havard),—being a partial reprint of his weekly articles written for *Le Temps* newspaper. A similar annual record is M. Paul Endel's "*L'Hôtel Drouot et la Curiosité en 1883*" (one vol., Charpentier).

Among the new art publications may be noticed "*Les Dessins du Siècle*," *fac-similes* of the principal drawings by the masters of the century, now being exhibited at the *École des Beaux-Arts* (appearing in instalments and published by Baschet, small folio). M. Roger Ballu contributes a study on the principal masters whose works are reproduced.

THEODORE CHILD.

#### SCIENCE.

##### PROFESSOR ROTHROCK ON THE AMERICAN FORESTS.

AMONG those who are interesting themselves in the question of the preservation of American forests and the planting of new ones, none are more earnest than Professor Rothrock, of the University of Pennsylvania. Professor Rothrock delivered one of the course of University lectures at Association Hall, in this city, last week. His subject was "The Relation of American Forestry to American Prosperity." He was introduced in a few fitting words by the Hon. Eli K. Price, who dwelt on the services rendered to this country by André Michaux. The two Michaux, father and son, travelled in this country in the last century, under instructions from the French Government to study the forests of the New World. The younger man made his first journey with his father, and his second alone, returning to France in 1801. When he died in 1855, he left to the American Philosophical Society a fund of eleven thousand dollars, and to the Boston Society of Arts a fund of eight thousand dollars, both to be applied to developing American resources. The Philosophical Society devoted its money to the endowment of a professorship of botany which is filled by Professor Rothrock, and lectures by him are given in the Park at Horticultural Hall, around which the Michaux nursery of forest trees is rapidly growing in extent.

His University lecture was a summary of the latest development of the necessity of forestry laws to protect the future timber trade of the country. He showed the percentages of timber land to other productive territories, from the three per cent. of Great Britain to the forty-five per cent. of Sweden, and that the lowest ratio that can be called self-sustaining is fifteen per cent., while we have only a margin of one and a half per cent. between dearth and supply. At the rate at which our forests are being destroyed, this small advantage will soon disappear and then there will be a timber famine throughout the land. Great Britain between 1872 and 1876 imported seventy-seven million dollars' worth of timber,—about \$2.60 for each individual,—while the supply was only about \$1.30 from native sources. In the United States, besides using about \$19.90 per head, we exported six hundred million dollars' worth. How long this can last is a question of time, and very little time, too. There ought to be as large a proportion of woodland to clear land for atmospheric purification as for timber supply. The rain-fall is not necessarily affected by clearing off the timber; but failing springs and falling

rivers do result from it, for forests diminish evaporation over eighty per cent.

What is the practical remedy within reach? Professor Rothrock points to Germany, with its nine forest schools, their high standard, and their able teachers and growing classes of pupils. One man in this country, Professor Sargent of Massachusetts, is the only person employed and paid to look after our vast empire of timber. He has worked hard to secure active measures to protect the interest entrusted to him. An exemption of preserved forests from taxes would soon return the loss of revenue in the enhanced value of the timber. The reckless destruction of trees is the first thing to be cured. Even if Congress withdraws national timber land from sale, it will be only a palliative, and there are no trained men to whom this enormous source of future wealth can be safely entrusted. Within five years, our best white pine will all be gone; within thirty or forty years, all the rest of our good timber will have been exhausted. Can there be any question about the necessity of such legislation, State and national, as shall protect the country from a timber famine?

#### REVIEWS.

##### LANMAN'S SANSKRIT READER.\*

THE Sanskrit language is the basis upon which all thorough study of the science of language in general, and of comparative philology in particular, must be built; and every student of these subjects, as well as any teacher of language who wishes to do his work intelligently, must devote to it more or less of his time. If there were no other reason for this, the simple fact that all of the best text-books on these subjects keep its phenomena constantly in sight, and demand, in order to be understood, some knowledge of its processes, would suffice. But the morphology of Sanskrit is so transparent, and its phonetic laws so clear and consistent, that from the very first hour of study the attention of the student is unavoidably directed to the formation of the word. He does not, as in Latin and Greek, deal with ready-made polysyllables, whose origin is not always to be discerned; on the contrary, he cannot avoid keeping root, stem and suffixes in clear sight, so that even the tables of inflection throw at once a flood of light upon the structure of the cognate tongues. In some respects, indeed, it is no longer thought as primitive as it was held to be ten years ago; the Greek vowel-system is now considered nearer that of the Indo-European mother tongue just before the branching off of the various languages derived from it. Nevertheless, it is still certain that its forms and grammar mirror more completely than any other the condition of the pro-ethnic speech, and with some qualifications the Sanskrit word is often quoted as if it were the type from which the others are derived.

These are the main and very ample reasons for the general and growing interest in the study of Sanskrit; these rather than its literature. The literature is, indeed, rich in many directions, but cannot pretend to vie in attractiveness or in real value with the Greek or the Latin; nor, it may be added, with the literatures of the modern languages commonly studied in our schools and colleges. The "Veda" is important from the light that it throws upon the early phases of primitive Indo-European culture, especially in its religious aspects; but even here the sources of interest are rather scientific than literary, in the narrow sense of the latter term. For, although the underlying thought of some of the hymns is noble, and even sublime, yet the great mass of them is of very inferior aesthetic value. Yet many students who have begun the study of Sanskrit, with the intention simply of laying a basis for general philological work, have found the picturesque, cumbrous style, the strange mixture of sententious wisdom and trivial puerilities, so attractive as to lead them much farther than was contemplated by their original plan of work. The philosophy, religion and reflection, such as they are, are distinctively original and national, and as such are very far, indeed, from being unworthy of special study. The scholar who knows the literature of the Greeks has more to learn from the Sanskrit than from the Latin. One must conquer the first difficulties; and it must be said that the difficulties are all at the beginning, and have hitherto been largely due to the expense of the textual and lexical apparatus necessary even for those whose plans were most limited.

This difficulty has been completely removed by the publication of Professor Lanman's "Reader," and, whatever be the ultimate aim of the student, no better introductory manual can be placed in his hands. The selections themselves are such as, by the universal consent of all teachers, are in virtue of the character of their style most useful for the beginner. At the same time, they are of a kind to serve as the best possible introduction to the study of Hindu customs and thought. And it may be added that they are sufficient in amount to serve the purpose of the vast majority of those who keep in view the more limited aim referred to above, special detailed work in the Vedic language excepted.

The most important feature of the work is, however, the vocabulary. It is sufficiently extensive to serve as a manual of reference in the place of a more complete dictionary, while as a companion to the text it is complete. Careful enumeration of all the forms and very copious reference to the grammar enable even the home student to make rapid and sure progress in this respect. Furthermore, the treatment of the meanings and the full discussion of the etymologies distinguish it beyond any other reader ever published. Not merely are full indications of the

\* "A Sanskrit Reader; With Vocabulary and Notes." By Charles R. Lanman, Professor of Sanskrit in Harvard College. Boston: Ginn, Heath & Co.

derivations given throughout,—for this has been frequently done before,—but similar processes in other languages, particularly the English, are noted wherever the slightest light can be thrown upon the word discussed. This very necessary and interesting psychological side of the etymologies has never before been so fully worked out, and gives to the vocabulary the position of an independent work.

The selections from the "Veda," together with the material for their study furnished by the vocabulary, meet a pressing want of the classroom. Among minor matters may be noticed the "List of Books Useful for the Student of Sanskrit," and the very ingenious device by which the transliterated pages and the Devanagari can be kept in sight at the same time; the utility of the latter will be immediately evident to anyone who has taught Sanskrit to beginners. The "get up" of the volume is very neat, and when this is considered it must be pronounced one of the cheapest books in the market. It is now possible to do effective teaching of the language in undergraduate classes.

VESTIGIA. By George Fleming, Author of "Kismet," "Mirage," and "The Head of Medusa." Boston: Roberts Brothers.

The admirers of Miss Fletcher's earlier works will find in her latest novel a continuous advance in many of the qualities of which they were rather rich in promise than absolute in performance. The literary style is ripened and solidified; the local coloring of the foreign country selected as the theatre of the story is no longer confined to the background, but is freely used to depict the figures which perform their part in the narrative. *Italia* and *Sora Catarina* appear thoroughly Italian in type; *Drea*, too, is an Italian *Mr. Peggotty* with differences due to his nationality; and the young *Marchese* is a characteristic figure. All this is a decided advance in merit, but it must be admitted that there has been some loss during this process of improvement. The novelty and romance of foreign travel which lent such a freshness and glow to the pages of "Kismet" and "Mirage" are no longer apparent, and the gain of familiarity with foreign characteristics is not sufficient to atone for what is lost. In the story itself there is little to interest, outside of the love-idyl of *Dino* and *Italia*. Nihilist plots are never very attractive in romance, and *Dino's* Nihilism is of a particularly unheroic and milk-and-water kind. Even *Valdez*, who is intended to represent the noblest type of such conspirators, fails to secure the reader's interest; and the motiveless assassination which he so kindly takes off *Dino's* hands provokes no sympathy with its attempted performance and failure. The best and pleasantest part of the book centres in the brightly innocent *Italia*; and her pretty little figure, niched in the ledge below the door of her quaint habitation, or perched upon the swaying surface of the great buoy, is what remains with most clearness in the memory of the reader of "Vestigia."

HER WASHINGTON SEASON. By Jeanie Gould Lincoln, Author of "Marjorie's Quest," Etc. Boston: James R. Osgood & Co.

The aspects of life presented in this volume are not, for a change, overshadowed by the portentous ugliness of lobbies, bribes, venal statesmen and corrupt politicians, but are all of a gay and agreeable social nature. Everything is brilliant and serene. The men are brave and the women fair; the people in authority do their duty, and the representatives of the nation in council assembled are worthy of their high and responsible positions. Pessimism has so long scowled with gloomy front upon Washington life as to make this smiling optimism an agreeable novelty, strong enough to avert any severe criticism of the book in which it occurs.

To whom belongs the possessive pronoun of the title of "Her Washington Season," is not entirely clear to the reader, as there are three heroines, each beautiful and fascinating, each rounding her love story to happy completion at the close of the season reported. The time is of the present day, during which "we New Yorkers are very proud of our President;" the events recorded (outside of the love affairs of the three belles,) are those incident to a breathless whirl through a season of excessive social gayety, in which "a lunch, two receptions, a dinner, private theatricals and a ball" are mentioned as one day's round of engagements. These fast-recurring festivities might be considered very serious business, indeed; but they are in this case represented as an unceasing succession of pleasures, and even the "much-abused, thoroughly American institution of the President's *levée*" is claimed as entertaining and enjoyable. The authoress has evidently skimmed the cream of everything into her dish, and left it for whoso chooses or must to take the bonny-clabber.

#### AUTHORS AND PUBLISHERS.

BEFORE making his selections from Darwin's works ("Darwinism Stated by Darwin Himself"), Professor Sheppard conferred with Mr. Darwin's sons on the subject, and in his reply Professor George H. Darwin says, under date of October 8th, 1883: "I have delayed answering your letter for some weeks, until I could consult my brothers on the subject. We see no objection to your plan of publishing selections from my father's books on two conditions, and these are, first, that Messrs. Appleton & Co., the publishers of his books, consent; and, second, that it is made to appear clearly in the book that it is a selection and not the complete book. I beg you will accept our thanks for your courtesy in consulting us." Both of these conditions have been carefully fulfilled by the editor.

Mr. E. P. Roe is writing a serial story for *St. Nicholas*; not for *The Century*, as previously announced.—Judge Neilson, of Brooklyn, popularly known from his connection with the Beecher trial, has written a book, soon to be published, entitled "Memories of Rufus Choate."—Mark Twain, whose "Gilded Age" has been successful on the stage, means to turn his "Prince and Pauper" into a play.—The Chicago *Current* some time ago offered prizes amounting to one thousand dollars for the best forty short stories to be sent in prior to March 1st. Some bushels of literature have been forwarded in response.

*The Critic and Good Literature* has devised a plan to find the forty most popular men of letters in America. Each of its readers who sees fit is to send in a paper containing two-score names of the writer's favorite American masculine authors: *The Critic and Good Literature* will count the ballots and announce the result.—The able French literary review, *Le Livre*, will in the future have an English home, Mr. Unwin having undertaken to issue it in London on the 12th of each month. Mr. Bouton has long been the American agent of *Le Livre*.—The sale of the Murphy library was closed at Clinton Hall, New York, last week, after occupying the afternoons and evenings of six days. There were about five thousand books sold, and the total receipts reached \$51,559.63. This shows a very good average, and proves that Americana is not a bad investment. The highest price fetched for any one set of books was for the "Jesuit Relations," a fine edition in forty-one volumes, which after some lively bidding between Mr. Hannah, of the Brooklyn Mercantile Library, and Mr. Joseph Sabin, was knocked down to the latter for three thousand dollars.

It seems that the obituary article on Wendell Phillips which appeared in *The Nation* of February 7th was from the pen of Colonel Higginson, and it has now been published in pamphlet form by Messrs. Lee & Shepard. The preservation and permanency thus assured it were never better deserved by any like piece of work; as a literary composition it is exquisite, and as a study of character and recital of actions it is not less admirable.

*The Antiquary* for March has a number of good articles, chief among them being "The Iron Age in Greece," by A. Lang; "History and Development of the House," by Henry B. Wheatley; and "The Earlier Life of Thomas Cromwell," by Rev. John Brownhill. The editorial departments are full and interesting. (New York: J. W. Bouton.)

Messrs. G. P. Putnam's Sons have nearly ready Rev. R. Heber Newton's new volume, entitled "The Book of the Beginnings; With a General Introduction to the Pentateuch."—A volume is in preparation in London, entitled "John Bull's Neighbor in Her True Light," by "A Brutal Saxon." Rumor says that the book is likely to be as eagerly read as "John Bull and His Island," by which it has been, of course, inspired.

An interesting little volume descriptive of Tonquin is in the press of Messrs. Sampson Low & Co. The author is Major-General William Mesney, in the Imperial Chinese Army, who has been living for twenty years in the heart of China, and has probably seen more of Chinese life than any living foreigner.—There is a sudden revival of interest in Keats. Two recent *éditions de luxe* of his works are to be followed by "Selections from Keats," by Mr. W. T. Arnold. There have also been various magazine articles. Mr. Arnold's book was originally intended to make part of the "Parchment Library," but it grew too large for that series.

#### PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

- FRENCH POETS AND NOVELISTS. By Henry James. Pp. 344. \$1.50. Macmillan & Co., New York. (E. Claxton & Co., Philadelphia.)
- CECIL'S SUMMER: A NOVEL. By E. B. Hollis. Pp. 286. \$1.25. Thomas Y. Crowell & Co., New York. (E. Claxton & Co., Philadelphia.)
- HINTS TO OUR BOYS. By Andrew James Symington. Pp. 170. \$0.75. Thomas Y. Crowell & Co., New York. (E. Claxton & Co., Philadelphia.)
- BIRDS AND THEIR WAYS. By Ella Rodman Church. Pp. 415. \$1.25. MICHAEL ELLIS'S TEXT: A STORY FOR GIRLS. By Margaret E. Winslow. Pp. 320. \$1.15. SIX YEARS ON THE BORDER; OR, SKETCHES OF FRONTIER LIFE. By Mrs. J. B. Rideout. Pp. 221. \$0.85. THREE GIRLS IN ITALY; OR, GESU BASTA. By M. E. Winslow. Pp. 304. \$1.15.—Presbyterian Board of Publication, Philadelphia.
- THE JOYS OF LIFE ("LA JOIE DE VIVRE"): A NOVEL. By Émile Zola. Pp. 424. \$0.75. T. B. Peterson & Bros., Philadelphia.
- THE BOWSHAM PUZZLE: A NOVEL. By John Habberton. Pp. 222. \$1.00. ("Standard Library.") Funk & Wagnalls, New York.
- THE CONQUEST OF ENGLAND. By John Richard Green, M. A., LL. D. Pp. 607. Harper & Bros., New York. (J. B. Lippincott & Co., Philadelphia.)
- THE HESSIANS, AND THE OTHER GERMAN AUXILIARIES OF GREAT BRITAIN IN THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR. By Edward J. Lowell. Pp. 328. Harper & Bros., New York. (J. B. Lippincott & Co., Philadelphia.)
- A SHORT HISTORY OF OUR OWN TIMES. By Justin McCarthy, M. P. Pp. 448. Harper & Bros., New York. (J. B. Lippincott & Co., Philadelphia.)
- OLD MARK LANGSTON: A TALE OF DUKE'S CREEK. By Richard Malcolm Johnston. Pp. 338. Harper & Bros., New York. (J. B. Lippincott & Co., Philadelphia.)
- AIRS FROM ARCADY AND ELSEWHERE. By H. C. Bunner. Pp. 109. \$1.25. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York. (J. B. Lippincott & Co., Philadelphia.)



MY HOUSE: AN IDEAL. By Oliver B. Bunce. Pp. 108. \$1.00-\$0.50. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York. (J. B. Lippincott & Co., Philadelphia.)

DOCTOR JOHNS; BEING A NARRATIVE OF CERTAIN EVENTS IN THE LIFE OF AN ORTHODOX MINISTER OF CONNECTICUT. By the Author of "Reveries of a Bachelor." New and Revised Edition. Pp. 431. \$1.25. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York. (J. B. Lippincott & Co., Philadelphia.)

BALZAC. By Edgar Everson Saltus. Pp. 199. \$1.25. Houghton, Mifflin & Co., Boston. (J. B. Lippincott & Co., Philadelphia.)

#### ART NOTES.

THERE have been many vague statements circulated of late tending to produce a sentiment of uneasiness respecting the authenticity of pictures attributed to modern French painters. Charges of wholesale counterfeiting and forgery have been freely made, indicating an established system of fraud in the manufacture and distribution of spurious pictures assigned to famous painters, such charges being usually sweeping and indefinite, but occasionally specific. Several distinguished connoisseurs have been victimized, as alleged, under the very shadow of the *Salon*; but the "new rich" of America, greedy for great names, credulous and prodigal, afford the main market for the dubious industry, and through this outlet report declares vast numbers of false Corots, Bretons, Duprezes, Daubignys, Meissoniers, etc., are annually disposed of. This allegation becomes the more seriously unpleasant when we reflect that the progress of art in America has been largely influenced by the modern French schools since Constable, and that there certainly are a great many pictures in this country attributed to the masters of these schools. The thought that these works or any considerable number of them have been manufactured for the American market in the shops of Parisian dealers, put up in dozens of regular sizes and assorted colors, so to speak, cannot be comfortably entertained. Fortunately there is no sufficient reason to believe that it need be entertained. Charles Reade recently remarked that picture-buyers as a rule are shrewd, sharp bargainers; and it may be safely taken for granted that any American who knows enough to want a Duprez or a Jules Breton knows enough not to be swindled in buying it. This country is said to be flooded with imitation Corots, and doubtless there have been a great many "buckeyes" sold under that artist's name; but they are recognized as trash and deceive nobody at all well informed. There are several important works by Corot owned in Philadelphia, and as a practical test we venture to assert that the authenticity of every one of these can be established beyond the shadow of a doubt. There is plenty of humbug in the picture business, but American connoisseurs are rarely entrapped by it.

Among the contributors to *Chaff*, an amateur paper issued by students in the University of Pennsylvania, is a draughtsman whose work, signed "F. L. Fithian," we have watched for some time with interest. With everything that is crude, these drawings show comic talent which ought to be equally cultivated and encouraged. Some of the best of them, such as "Ajax Defying the Lightning," in the current number,—a contraband balancing a demijohn on his mouth,—are reminders of Frost and Eyttinge, and in spirit not unworthy of those humorists. We should say it was quite within the range of possibilities for Mr. Fithian, if that is the young artist's name, to make himself solid repute as a caricaturist.

Johns Hopkins University has added an archaeological society to its many special features.—Charles F. Ulrich's "Glass-Blowers" has been sent to the *Salon*. The New York *Herald* says it is the only work it knows of which has been shipped from this country.—Mr. C. E. L. Green is holding an exhibition of his works at Chase's Galleries, Boston.—The sale of the pictures of the Harrison brothers in New York last week, after the close of their exhibition, was very disappointing, the total being thirty-five hundred dollars only. The highest price was five hundred and forty for Birge Harrison's "Return from the First Communion."

Some American admirers of the work of G. Frederick Watts, R. A., the English painter, are endeavoring to arrange an exhibition of his pictures in this country.—There is talk of an exhibition to be held in Paris, of works of Gustave Doré. It will be organized by M. de Sommerard, of the Cluny Museum.—The important collection of the late Alessandro Castellani was announced in foreign journals to be sold in Rome on the 17th inst. and following days. It comprises objects of antique art of the Middle Ages and the Renaissance, medals, engraved gems, pictures, tapestries, etc.—Henry O. Avery, a New York architect, has received the award in a competition for a granite monument to be erected over the graves of the one hundred victims of the Newhall House fire at Milwaukee. His design consists of an octagonal shaft surmounted by a flame. This rests on a circular base or drum, from which radiate twelve stone mounds, on each side of which will be cut six names, the identified dead numbering seventy-two. The total height will be some thirty feet.

The *Magazine of Art* for April has for its principal features "More About Algiers," by J. Arthur Blaikie; "Art in the Garden," by Barclay Day; and "The Ionides Collection," by Cosmo Monkhouse. There are other illustrated papers, but these are the best, and of the three we prefer the one placed first above. The accompanying wood-cuts to Mr. Blaikie's article are excellent in all respects. Hardly as much as this can be said of the frontispiece to the number, from Botticelli's painting, "Smeralda di Bandinelli," which is not up to the usual high mark of the

full-page engravings in this magazine; nor is "Burdens," by Charles Gregory, very successful. Two other full-page pictures, from battle scenes by Verestchagin, have strength and finish. "Pictures of Japan," *fac-similes* of drawings by native artists, have a curious interest. These things have become common, but this set of pictures is certainly one of the best that has appeared. The editorial matter of the number is fresh and entertaining. (New York: Cassell & Co.)

Exhibitions of the works of Scott Leighton and Ross Turner are now open in Boston, the first at Noyes & Blakeslee's gallery and the second at Doll & Richards's rooms.—The new edition of "Bryan's Dictionary of Painters and Engravers" (Dodd, Mead & Co.) is ready for publication. A vast amount of new material has been used in this revision, the last edition of the work having been published in 1849.—It is proposed to make a representative collection of the works of native artists at an exhibition of American art products and manufactures, which will probably open in London in May, 1885. A circular has been issued on the subject by Mr. C. B. Norton, of Boston.—The Art Union has sent out proposals asking artists to agree for a year not to treat directly with the agents of any art exhibitions outside of the city in which they live, to refer all invitations to the Art Union, and to exhibit only under arrangements that may be made by its board of control. The circular is not intended to apply to the exhibitions of New York City and Brooklyn, or to those of dealers.

The *Portfolio* for March has a continuation of Julia Cartright's valuable "Artist in Venice," and the first instalment of a serial from which much may be expected, by Walter Armstrong, on "The Authorship of Some Italian Pictures." A paper by W. Watkiss Lloyd, on "Chaldean and Assyrian Art," is well written and is accompanied by some more than usually good wood-cuts. The full-page pictures of the number are noticeably good. They include an etching of "Foot-Bridge over the Wily," by R. S. Chattock; an engraving in *fac-simile* of a sketch by Joseph Pennell,—"A Venetian Palazzo,"—and an engraving of Tintworth's terra-cotta bas-relief, "Preparing for the Crucifixion," a very dramatic and impressive composition. (New York: J. W. Bouton.)

#### APRIL MAGAZINES.

IN the *North American Review*, the great free-ship question is debated by Hon. Nelson Dingley, M. C., and Captain John Codman, the first-named writer opposing the admission of foreign-built ships to American registry, and the last-named favoring it. Judge J. A. Jameson discusses the question, "Shall Our Civilization Be Preserved?" the article being a continuation of a speculation of Judge Jameson's in a former number, and to which we have referred. The remaining articles have not quite the same close interest as those just named, but there is merit in them all. Rev. Dr. Schaff gives a sketch of "The Development of Religious Freedom;" Dr. Felix L. Oswald writes of "Changes in the Climate of North America;" Professor C. A. Eggert, "A Plea for Modern Languages;" Julian Hawthorne, on "Literature for Children;" and Rev. Heber Newton and Rev. A. G. Mortimer furnish a joint article on "Recent Criticisms of the Bible." Judge Jameson in his article, pointing out the physical causes which may lead to the destruction of civilization, and how they may be overcome, says:

"By employing substantially the same means as those employed in the building of the Egyptian pyramids, the rich and powerful nations of the earth might preserve the best part of the treasures of their civilization,—the outlines of their history, of their arts and sciences, and of their religion,—and thus tide over a period of calamity and darkness until the return of a better day. By engraving upon the inner walls of pyramids, or upon the scarped faces of mountains, inscriptions in many languages, carefully leaving a key in the use of natural objects as equivalents of the names of things, the message of the nineteenth to the thirtieth or the fortieth century might be surely and accurately delivered. Doubtless to insure this result it would be necessary to select for these repositories the best places and the least destructible material. The former would be mountain-tops or immense deserts, where burial mounds or other erections would attract attention. At the same time, of any structures erected the material and mode of construction should be such as not to excite the cupidity of savage races, and as easily to satisfy an aroused curiosity as to their contents. To this end stone or brick would be the material used. Further than this we shall not stop now to develop the scheme, but after answering one or two objections to it pass on. It may be asked, of what benefit would the amplest possible traces of our civilization be to uncivilized races of men, caring for none of those things; or even to races already so far redeemed to civilization as to have an intelligent curiosity about them and sufficient learning and ingenuity to decipher them. The answer is, to races wholly uncivilized there would possibly be no benefit at all; but when their descendants should have advanced to a certain point in culture and refinement the benefit would be very great; it would be the same that has followed in our day from the translation of the inscriptions of ancient Assyria and Egypt; the correction of errors current as to the early history of mankind, and, above all, the illustrating and widening of the scope of our sacred writings, the basis of our creeds. Here the benefit to us has been beyond computation, since the new light shed upon the past has broken many of the fetters of the old theology. And if it be further asked how would it benefit the present to attempt to send its message to the distant future, the answer would be, it would benefit the present by compelling it to choose out of the chaotic *farrago* of arts, beliefs, knowledges, that which its best wisdom should pronounce to be worthy of preservation. It would thus simmer down and clarify to its own apprehension the riches of its civilization, and, as it were, under the solemnities of its death-bed transmit what it valued of its treasures, together with its last counsels, to its posterity. How in such a quest most of our

systems of philosophy, our social theories, and our theologies, would fare, we shall not stop to inquire."

*Harper's Magazine* gives a table of contents of remarkable variety. Both its literary and art features are of an exceptionally high order. "A Lover's Pilgrimage," by E. D. R. Bianciardi, is a paper poetically conceived and artistically executed, both in the writing and the engravings, of which there are twelve. It describes a visit to Verona, to the tomb of *Juliet*. Another "pilgrimage," though of a different sort to the one just named,—"*A Visit to Sardinia*," by Charles Eliot Norton,—is also noticeable. So also are "From the Frazer to the Columbia," by Ernest Ingersoll; "The Hohenzollerns," by Herbert Tuttle; "The Second War of Independence," by T. W. Higginson; and "Workingmen's Homes," by R. R. Bowker. In the articles enumerated there are fifty-six illustrations, and that is by no means the sum of the pictorial attraction of the number. Poems, stories, sketches, etc., are contributed by Rev. E. P. Roe, William Black, Laura M. Marquand, Charles Reade, G. T. Lanigan, R. H. Horne, C. Kegan Paul, W. P. Trowbridge, and Helen Ludlow. We take from "The Easy Chair" these suave but searching remarks on Sir Lepel Griffin:

"A certain Sir Lepel Griffin is a late English traveller who seems to have had an exceedingly dismal and dyspeptic journey in this country. It is obvious that for the general objects of the dyspeptic English traveller America is not a land of promise. There is a great want of any historical interest, and association of legend and literature, with which he is likely to be acquainted. There are few relics of an older day, and the country is so large that however its size may please the native, as Lord Coleridge is very sure that it does, it is more likely to fatigue the foreigner. The Englishman who lands in France, and passing through that country crosses the Rhine, and from Germany and Switzerland descends into Italy, travels over a storied land, where every mile appeals to the most interesting historic or imaginative association. Here, however, he is apt to find but a half-penny-worth of bread to an intolerable deal of sack.

"Some travellers, however, to whom the interests of man are supreme, and who are mindful of the bird rather than of the plumage, have been often so interested in the experiment to promote human welfare which is proceeding here under such ample and promising conditions, that they have endured the inconveniences and annoyances of the journey with equanimity, and have even been interested to observe that the conveniences and comforts of journeying were in some respects much greater than those they had left behind them. But the hapless Griffin was of another kind. Like the romantic young woman who found her favorite poet to be a stout and solid person, and who could only cry: 'Oh, disenchantment! disillusion!' so the worthy Griffin sighs with sorrow: 'America is the country of disillusion and disappointment in politics, literature, culture and art; in its scenery, its cities, and its people. With some experience of every kind in the civilized world, I can think of none except Russia in which I would not prefer to reside, in which life would not be more worth living, less sordid, and mean, and unlovely.'

"To this melancholy view the Easy Chair can but offer the response of a public man to a person who owned that as long as he did not know him he disliked him exceedingly: 'Yes; and if I were the man you supposed me to be I should greatly dislike myself.' Moreover, the wail of the good Sir Lepel over a country which evidently did not even cure his dyspepsia recalls Mr. Gladstone's remark, that while after his own country he was interested in none more than in America, yet that, despite his careful talk with travellers in America and careful reading of their books, he was conscious that he had no conception whatever of what the country really was. Mr. Parnell might tell him that he would have still less after reading the excellent Lepel's story."

### THE DRAMA.

#### MR. DION BOUCICAULT.

MR. BOUCICAULT'S artistic career has been somewhat chequered, but he has always come out ahead of his detractors, and whatever provocation he may have given to censorious criticism nobody can afford to ignore him. He has made an epoch in the history of the English stage and stands to-day very nearly at the head of living modern dramatists, so that to take him out of the annals of the period would be to leave a hiatus only to be appreciated by one who has studied the development of English drama during the last fifty years. His fecundity has been extraordinary, but more remarkable still is the fact that he has steadily maintained the standard of his work. There is, of course, a variation, but no distinctive deterioration in quality; and although to our thinking he has never equalled the literary excellence of "*London Assurance*," the production of his youth, he has nevertheless produced many plays which show an advance in artistic merit compared with other earlier performances; hence, while "*London Assurance*" and a few other works stand out as bright particular stars, the general course of his work has been progressive. He has succeeded in that crucial test, the meeting of a popular want; and, though it may be that with commercial shrewdness he has at times first created the want, yet the fact remains that he has been equal to the expectations raised.

So much having been premised of Mr. Boucicault as author, we are in better position to judge intelligently of his merits as actor, because his development on the stage has been consistent with his labors in the study. He appears, indeed, to have set himself a certain task, to have mapped out a definite course; and through a long period, during which nearly all of his early contemporaries have passed away, he has steadily pressed towards the goal which was before his eyes at the beginning. The mainspring of his action seems to have been a sentiment of intense patriotism, and no one has embodied in his work a more ardent and disinterested love of country. Nor should we know where to turn for a

keener appeal to popular sympathy in behalf of a people whose woes he has thought fit to set forth with a partisanship which, it must be confessed, has at times rendered him oblivious to their faults.

To speak at length of "*The Shaughraun*" has become a work of supererogation; the popular verdict was given some years ago. But it is not to be concealed that the play has become old-fashioned; its coloring is not only local, but temporary, and therefore it cannot be expected that it should command interest now as it did when first introduced; besides which, such bits of character-painting as *Conn* have been robbed of most of their excellence by the mere fact of imitation and repetition. It is one of the misfortunes of the creative faculty in every field of art that a unique idea ceases to be unique the moment it is given expression; and in common with the painter, the sculptor, the musician and the poet, he who aspires to a strong individuality as a dramatist must be content to see his most-original conceptions of character and his finest complexities of situation immediately appropriated and served up to the public *ad nauseam*. Mr. Boucicault could hardly expect to escape so common a fate; nor has he done so. Everybody is tired of the *Conns*; but that is no fault of Mr. Boucicault. The type has grown stale; that is all. We do not at all coincide with those critics of Mr. Boucicault's acting who have recently said that his powers are waning. The fault is not there; it is in the fact that the public has grown away from the school which he represents. So far as his rendition is concerned, we fail to observe any decadence; but it is clear that there is not the same interest, not the same sympathy, that there used to be between actor and audience. This, though a fact to be regretted, is one to be chronicled.

As for Miss Nina Boucicault, silence would be the kindest criticism. If she inherits any spark of her father's genius, she certainly succeeds in concealing it to perfection. Miss Langdon, Mr. Conway, and the rest, are passable, but no more.

Will not some kind friend of Mr. Boucicault suggest to him the expediency of reworking his earlier field? There is yet time for him to produce a powerful play on other lines than "*The Shaughraun*." He is full of ideas. French in name, Irish in sympathy, he is yet all American in his capacity for fresh thought and hard work. We should like to see him essay a new play. But whether he does so or not he has earned the right to the success which he has enjoyed, and to the wealth which that success has brought him.

### NOTES.

ON Wednesday evening, Mr. Frank Lee Benedict read his new play, "*Ardmore*," before a critical audience at the Academy of Fine Arts. "*Ardmore*" is a five-act piece of melodramatic tendency, carrying a single thread of narrative, and embodying a pretty story of man's heroism and woman's devotion, in language which is generally poetical and always well chosen. As a closet drama it has undoubted strength, and the fact that the story is told almost entirely in simple dialogue, there being rarely more than two characters before the audience at any one time, renders it singularly adapted to public reading. On the other hand, this same peculiarity would militate against the play as an acting piece, and taken in conjunction with the absence of situations, and the total lack of the comedy element, would probably prove a bar to its success upon the stage.

### NEWS SUMMARY.

FOREIGN.—Osman Digna's forces in the Soudan were thoroughly routed by the British troops under General Graham on the 13th inst. Seventy of the British were killed and one hundred wounded. The loss of the Arabs is unknown. —Sir Evelyn Baring, the British Minister at Cairo, warns the home Government, however, that the spirit of the Arab leaders under two crushing defeats is by no means broken. According to the Minister, all indications go to show that the rebellion in the Soudan is of a much more formidable character than it has been supposed to be. —The Marquis of Hartington, the British War Secretary, has received the text of a proclamation by Admiral Hewett at Souakim, offering one thousand pounds sterling reward for Osman Digna's head, and has ordered it to be withdrawn in the most judicious manner possible. —It is reported that Earl Granville, the Foreign Secretary, insists upon the recall of General Gordon, whose sanity is called into question. —The situation is complicated by news of the illness of Mr. Gladstone, necessitating his absence from Parliament and a probable journey to the South of France, and by fears of an early resignation of the Cabinet. The *London Daily News* asserts that the existence of the Government and of Parliament is precarious and in hourly jeopardy. A large Liberal meeting was held at Monmouth, England, on the 18th inst. It rejected a resolution expressive of confidence in the Government, and adopted one condemning the policy which has been pursued in the Soudan. The Ministerialists are confident that whatever occurs relative to foreign affairs Mr. Gladstone will insist upon the final decision of Parliament on the county-franchise question. —The latest advices from Bac-Ninh, 17th inst., stated that General Magrier, who led the French forces that advanced from Haidzuong, encountered the enemy at Xairoy, between Langthong and Lagbudi. A severe battle ensued. The enemy were at last forced to retreat, and the French forces pursued them into Bac-Ninh by the Langthong road. The enemy evacuated the town in great disorder, and the French continued to pursue them in the direction of Thainguven. —A Berlin despatch to an English news agency states that Minister Sargent has been allowed by Secretary Frelinghuysen the option of remaining at Berlin or becoming Minister at some other court. Mr. Sargent, according to another report, has accepted from Prince Bismarck an invitation to a dinner to be given on the 22d inst., in honor of the eighty-seventh anniversary of the birthday of Emperor William. —In the German *Reichstag* on the 18th inst., the President announced the reception of a resolution of condolence at the death of Herr Lasker, from the



Cincinnati Gymnastic Society. He stated that he would express the thanks of the *Reichstag* for the Society's sympathy. The Norwegian *Rigsret* has sentenced Minister of State Kieruff to be deprived of his official functions and to pay the costs of his trial. Cardinal Howard has been appointed to the Bishopric of Frascati, Archbishop Ledoschowski having definitely declined the office.

DOMESTIC.—The annual banquet of the New York Free Trade Club, given on the 15th inst., has been the occasion of much comment. Addresses were made by Speaker Carlisle, Congressman Perry Belmont, Senator Vance, David A. Wells, Professor Sumner of Yale College, and others. Mr. Carlisle in his address said the Free Traders were for reformation, not revolution. It is reported that a thirty-six inch vein of sapphire corundum has been discovered near Lone Mountain, in Northumberland County, Penna. The Samson Mining Company's concentrating works, eight miles from Silverton, Col., are reported to have been carried away by a snow-slide. The works were built last summer, at a cost of sixty thousand dollars. A terrible explosion in a coal mine at Pocahontas, Va., occurred on the 13th inst. One hundred and fifty miners were imprisoned in the pit, and not one escaped. Governor Cleveland, of New York, on the 17th inst. approved the Roosevelt bill giving the mayor of New York City the power of appointment without confirmation by the board of aldermen. General Grant left Fortress Monroe on the 17th inst. for Washington, where he will spend a couple of weeks with his friends. A bill passed by the Legislature of Ohio, abolishing the convict contract-labor system as fast as contracts expire, became a law on the 18th inst. The brig *Screamer*, from Cuba for Portland, arrived at Vineyard Haven on the 16th inst., having on board twenty-five Cuban men, women and children, claiming to be refugees. These are the alleged "banditti," regarding which instructions were given to the revenue cutters. The Governor of Massachusetts on the 18th inst. signed the Meigs Elevated-Railroad Bill. Commander George W. Coffin, now on duty at San Francisco as lighthouse inspector, has accepted the command of the Arctic relief steamer *Alert*. Secretaries Lincoln and Chandler have written a letter to the President, opposing a proposition to offer a reward for the discovery and relief of Lieutenant Greely's party by private enterprise. At a meeting of the United States Veterinary Medical Association at Boston on the 18th inst., a resolution concerning the cattle foot-and-mouth-disease was adopted which declared: "The whole sanitary system of cattle inspection needs revision. As managed to day, an alarming state of things exists."

DEATHS.—Blanchard Jerrold, the English author, editor and dramatist, a son of Douglas Jerrold, died in London on the 15th inst., aged 58. Richard Hengist Horne, a distinguished English critic and author, died in London on the 17th inst., aged 81. Signor Quinbino Sella, a distinguished Italian statesman and scholar, died in Rome on the 15th inst., aged 57. The Baroness Charlotte de Rothschild, a prominent member of the family of that name, widow of the late Baron Lionel, died in London on the 13th inst. Dr. Caspar Morris, a well-known Philadelphia physician, died in this city on the 17th inst., aged 79. Dr. Alfred L. Elwyn, president of the board of directors of the Pennsylvania Asylum for the Blind, died in Philadelphia on the 15th inst., aged 80. Hon. William H. Tuck, who had been Judge of the Maryland Court of Appeals, and State Senator of Maryland, died in Annapolis on the 17th inst., aged 75. Madame Anna Bishop, the famous operatic and concert singer, died in New York on the 19th inst., aged 70. Lieutenant-Colonel Godfrey Weitzel, an eminent engineer officer of the United States Army, died in Philadelphia on the 19th inst., aged 48.

### DRIFT.

Congressman Kelley's daughter, Florence, has written from Switzerland that she was sorry not to take part in the Woman's Suffrage Convention at Washington, but very thankful to be in Zurich, where she can pursue studies in political science which are denied her in the university of her native State of Pennsylvania.

Last year, the survivors of the Twenty-Eighth New York volunteers entertained the survivors of the Fifth Virginia at Niagara Falls. This year, the Virginia veterans will have the New Yorkers as their guests on a three days' visit, during which the noted caverns of Luray and the Natural Bridge will be visited, and a banquet will be served at Staunton. A large sum of money has already been subscribed by the people of Staunton and surrounding places to defray the expenses of the reunion, which will undoubtedly be a great success. It will occur either on May 22d or August 9th, the latter date being the anniversary of the famous battle of Cedar Mountain, at which engagement the two regiments met for the first time.

Oberlin College has lately received two bequests,—one of eight thousand dollars from Hartford, Conn., and the other of twenty-four thousand dollars from the late Mr. J. F. Clark, of Cleveland, Ohio.

A party of fifty women left Bordeaux for New Caledonia a short time ago under peculiar circumstances. They were women sentenced to long terms of imprisonment for grave offences, who have elected to go to the French penal colony, where they will find husbands in the convicts of the first class; that is, those convicts who have by their good behavior entitled themselves to a Government grant of land and obtained permission to marry. The women were selected from various prisons, and are described as young and good-looking. On arrival out, they will be housed in a religious establishment managed by a community of Sisters, where bachelor convicts of the privileged class will be permitted to visit them, and as often as a marriage is arranged the colonial Government will provide the bride with a trousseau, and set the couple up in housekeeping in a small way. This system of convict marriages was devised by Prince Napoleon, and it is said to have produced excellent results.

AFFECTIONS OF THE LIVER, BILIOUS DISORDERS, SICK HEADACHE, ETC., ARE thoroughly cured by Dr. Jayne's Sanative Pills. Acting as a general laxative, they remove all irritating and fecal matter from the bowels, gradually change the vitiated secretions of the stomach and liver, and restore these organs to a healthy condition.

### FINANCIAL AND TRADE REVIEW.

THURSDAY, March 20.

THE gold export last week was light, and this week has been only resumed to a moderate degree. The steamship *Gallia*, sailing from New York yesterday, took out six hundred thousand dollars; but advices from London are that gold is not wanted there, and that bankers do not desire their American correspondents to send funds over with the expectation of getting better interest than the rates prevailing here. As has been heretofore said repeatedly, the general situation of our foreign merchandise accounts does not justify a large outgo of specie. The stock markets have been without material change; the quotations below show a general range of prices slightly higher than a week ago. The winter wheat in the Western States is still reported in good condition, though the season is backward. The visible supply of wheat is now 30½ million bushels, a reduction of about 500,000 bushels since the previous week. The supply of corn in sight continues to increase; it is now 16¼ million bushels. The export movement of breadstuffs continues moderate.

The following were the closing quotations (sales,) of principal stocks in the Philadelphia market yesterday, as compared with those a week ago:

	March 19.	March 12.		March 19.	March 12.
Penna. R. R.,	60½	59½	Buff. N. Y. and P.,	7½	8¼
Phila. and Reading,	29	29½	North Penn. R. R.,	66½ bid	67
Lehigh Nav.,	47½	47½	United Cos. N. J.,	195½	195
Lehigh Valley,	71	71½	Phila. and Erie,	18½ bid	18
North Pac., com.,	21½	21	New Jersey Cent.,	88½ bid	88½
North Pac., pref.,	47½	46¾	Ins. Co. of N. A.,	32½	32½
Northern Central,	61½	61½			

The following were the closing quotations of United States securities in the Philadelphia market yesterday:

	Bid.	Asked.		Bid.	Asked.
U. S. 4½s, 1891, reg.,	113½	113¾	U. S. curr. 6s, 1895,	129	
U. S. 4½s, 1891, coup.,	113½	113¾	U. S. curr. 6s, 1896,	131	
U. S. 4s, 1907, reg.,	122¾	123	U. S. curr. 6s, 1897,	133¾	
U. S. 4s, 1907, coup.,	123¾	124	U. S. curr. 6s, 1898,	136¾	
U. S. 3s, reg.,	100¾		U. S. curr. 6s, 1899,	138¾	

The following were the closing quotations (bids,) of principal stocks in the New York market yesterday, compared with those a week ago:

	March 19.	March 12.		March 19.	March 12.
Central Pacific,	59½	58¾	New York Central,	115¾	121¼
Canada Southern,	54½	54¾	Oregon and Trans.,	20¼	19¾
Den. and Rio Grande,	18	18	Oregon Navigation,	86	87
Delaware and Hud.,	109	108	Pacific Mail,	55¾	51¾
Del., Lack. and W.,	128½	128¾	St. Paul,	92½	91¼
Erie,	17½	24½	Texas Pacific,	21½	19½
Lake Shore,	103	102¾	Union Pacific,	77½	77¾
Louis. and Nashville,	48¾	48¾	Wabash,	16¾	15¾
Michigan Central,	92¾	91	Wabash, preferred,	26¾	26¾
Missouri Pacific,	91¾	89¾	Western Union,	75¼	74¾
Northwestern, com.,	119¾	118	West Shore, bds.,	58¾	55¾

The weekly statement, on the 15th inst., of the New York bank clearing-house, showed a decrease of \$6,165,850 in the surplus reserve, bringing it down to \$6,654,825, as against a deficiency of \$6,770,875 at the corresponding statement of 1883. The specie held by the banks was \$65,746,900. The statement of the Philadelphia banks on the 15th showed an increase in the item of loans of \$123,104, in due from banks of \$534,591, in due to banks of \$342,424, and in circulation of \$8,754. There was a decrease in the item of reserve of \$514,607, in national bank notes of \$47,393, and in deposits of \$125,578. The Philadelphia banks had \$5,599,000 loaned in New York.

No gold was sent out from New York by Saturday's steamers, the movement being substantially ended. The specie export from that port for the week was \$686,038, making a total since January 1st of \$13,156,311, against \$3,448,340 for the same period last year. The imports of specie for the week were \$105,034, making a total since January 1st of \$7,172,822, against \$1,580,499 for the same period last year. The custom-house figures of the exports of specie for the week were \$686,038, but appended to the report is \$450,000 gold shipped by the *Servia* not reported in the previous week's returns, which brings the total up to \$1,136,038.

During February, 15,865 immigrants arrived in the United States, making a total during the eight months ending February 29th of 300,484, against 266,228 during the corresponding period of the preceding year.

The *Ledger* (Philadelphia,) of this date says: "The money market continues without change in quotations and also without any new feature, excepting that lenders are generally looking forward to a period of more active employment for their balances. Call loans are quoted at three and five per cent., and first-class commercial paper at four and six per cent. In New York, first-class endorsed commercial paper is in demand. The quotations are: Sixty to ninety days' endorsed bills receivable, four and four and a half per cent.; four months' acceptances, four and a half and five and a quarter per cent.; and good single names, having four to six months to run, five and a half and six and a half per cent. Yesterday, in New York, call money loaned at one and a half and two per cent. all-day."

In a communication to the Massachusetts House of Representatives on the 17th inst., Insurance Commissioner Tarbox called attention to the fact that there are fifteen insurance companies doing business in the State with a capital of less than three hundred thousand dollars. The Attorney-General having given his opinion that such business is contrary to law, Mr. Tarbox says that he shall be obliged, in the absence of legislative intervention, to revoke their authority.

A counterfeit silver certificate of the denomination of twenty dollars has appeared. The issue is of the series 1880, James Gilfillan, Treasurer of the United States. The paper is thick, greasy and stiff. The note is one-eighth of an inch shorter than the genuine. On the back of the note the word "taxes" is plainly spelled "tares," and the word "engraved" is spelled "engravad."

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WHARTON BARKER, President. JAS. W. NAGLE,  
HOWARD M. JENKINS, Sec'y and Treas. Business Manager.

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### SUBSCRIPTIONS AND ADVERTISING.

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A copy will be sent free to each advertiser during the continuance of his advertisement.

Checks, Postal Orders, etc., should be drawn to the order of Howard M. Jenkins, Treasurer.

\*Address through post-office: "THE AMERICAN, Lock Box, Philadelphia."

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WEEK COMMENCING MARCH 24th.

ACADEMY OF THE FINE ARTS—Germania Orchestra, every Thursday, 3 P. M.

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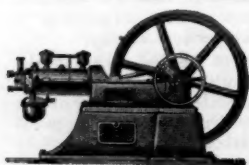
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remedying the same, together with an estimate of the cost thereof. The public are invited to call at the offices, where every  
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Long Branch, Ocean Grove and Spring Lake, 11.00 A. M., 1.15, 3.45 P. M., 12.00 midnight.

Schooley's Mountains, Budd's Lake and Lake Hopatcong, 8.30 A. M., 3.45 P. M.

SUNDAY—New York and Trenton, 8.30 A. M., 5.30 P. M., 12.00 midnight. For Newark, 8.30 A. M., 5.30 P. M. For Long Branch, 8.30 A. M.

Leave New York, foot of Liberty Street, 7.45, 9.30, 11.15 A. M., 1.30, 4.00, 4.30, 5.30, 7.00 P. M., 12.00 midnight.

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